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Hand Pump Mechanics Associations (HPMAs) for job opportunities and water services

Lydia Mirembe
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Supporting water sanitation
and hygiene services for life

Presentation outline

- Brief introduction/global context
- Brief background to HPMAs in Uganda
- Why HPMAs?
- HPMAs and jobs
- Challenges
- IRC support
- Recommendations

Brief introduction/global context

- The United Nations World Water Development Report 2016 estimates that more than 40% of the world's total active workforce, are heavily water-dependent.
- Provision of water-related services like construction and managing water supply infrastructure presents job opportunities for many.
- In Uganda, many men and women depend on jobs like constructing and maintaining water supply facilities.

Brief back ground to HPMAs

- Sustaining the functionality of rural water facilities remains a key challenge in Uganda.
- Investment in new infrastructure continues, but need to pay attention to operation and maintenance.
- Currently, national coverage is 65%, while functionality is 88%
- Ministry of Water and Environment adopted the formation of Hand Pump Mechanics Associations (HPMAs) in 2011
- The aim was to ensure that Hand Pump Mechanics (HPMs) were readily available to support communities with operation and maintenance of water supply facilities

What are HPMAs?

- Hand Pump Mechanics within a district come together to form an association to enjoy the advantages of working as a group:
- Equally distributed throughout the sub counties
- Closer to their clients – the water users
- Greater bargaining power
- Improved conduct and standards
- Formation of HPMAs was to improve functionality, but for the members this is a livelihood

HPMAs and jobs

Formation of HPMAs was to improve functionality, but for the members this is a livelihood

- Apart from their regular duties of repairing sources, HPMs also:
- Collecting data on functionality of point water sources
- Assessment and Rehabilitation of non-functional sources
- Extension of Gravity flow schemes
- Construction of sanitation facilities e.g latrine
- Construction of Ferro cement tanks
- Construction of rainwater harvesting tanks

HPMAs and jobs

District	Jobs done
Kabarole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="533 525 1611 651">• Extension of GFS worth UGX60 million (USD24,000).<li data-bbox="533 665 1669 791">• Extension of 1.3KM of a piped scheme in Kiguma Sub County.<li data-bbox="533 805 1591 931">• Extension of 3.8KM from Kakagusa to Saaka in Kichwamba Sub County,<li data-bbox="533 945 1591 1071">• Rehabilitation of a GFS in Buhesi Sub County.<li data-bbox="533 1085 1688 1145">• Installation of a pump system in Mpanga.<li data-bbox="533 1159 1514 1276">• Training of Water User Committees around the tap stands.

HPMAs and jobs

District	Jobs done
Lira	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collected baseline information for the M4W Initiative.• Collected data on the Service Delivery Indicators• Assessment of functionality of sources.• Collected water supply data for Plan International and Welt Hunger• Written proposals to all sub-county authorities requesting for tenders to manage sanitation in public places.• Oromo and Agweng sub counties agreed to give a tender to manage sanitation in markets.

Challenges

- HPMAs are not clear about how they should work as a private sector entity.
- The amount of work and money from routine maintenance and repair of water systems is often too low to sustain operations of the HPMA
- Some districts are still grappling with how to engage the HPMAs
- HPMAs have not yet acquired the technical expertise to manage contracts.
- Clients (water users) attitude towards paying for O&M
- The Price of spare parts is still high

IRC and other actors' interventions

- Ministry of Water lobbied the Public Procurement and Disposal Authority to issue a waver allowing district tender boards to prioritise HPMAAs when awarding tenders.
- Building HPMA capacity, especially on how to do business.
- IRC developed a business model for the HPMAAs.
- Facilitated exchange learning visits between districts, particularly Arua, Lira and Kabarole

HPMA Business Model

<p><i>Key Partners</i></p> <p><u>District Local Governments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation of HPMA Contracting HPMA <p><u>Umbrella Organizations for Water & Sanitation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to revolving funds Link to spare part dealers <p><u>Financing Institutions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HOFOKAM Microfinance Post Bank <p><u>WASH Tech dev't Promoters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of appropriate WASH tech Sanitation solutions, ATC <p><u>CSOs</u></p> <p>Capacity development IRC, SNV, Plan International, Devine Waters</p>	<p><i>Key Activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance of Water supply facilities Repair and rehabilitation Monitoring functionality of Water systems Emptying & disposal of faecal sludge Construction of sanitation facilities Monitoring & supervision of HPMS 	<p><i>Value Proposition</i></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guaranteeing reliability of water supply Increase sanitation service levels Improve household drinking water quality 	<p><i>Customer Relationships</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal relations with clients in rural areas, Local government, CSOs & Peri urban clients 	<p><i>Customer Segments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Households in rural areas Household in peri urban areas Water User Committees District Local Governments NGOs
<p><i>Cost Structure</i></p> <p>Rental costs Wages & Labour Transportation Equipment & supplies Marketing and promotion</p>	<p><i>Revenue Streams</i></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local government contracts for Rehabilitation of water systems Water user committees/Boards – Repair & Maintenance Sales of products & services (sanitation, household water treatment) Training and consultancy 			

Recommendations

In a country where youth unemployment is at 83%, activities related to water supply and sanitation services could guarantee jobs for many a youth.

- Through affirmative action, government should give HPMA's more responsibility to manage water supply facilities.
- Support the HPMA's to hone their business acumen to enable them comply with conventional business and professional standards
- HPMA's and artisans should join associations to benefit from collective bargaining